

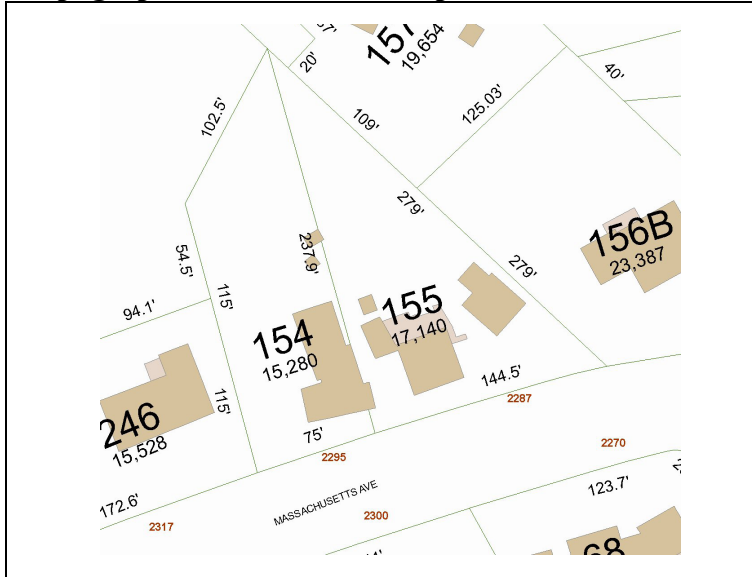
# FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

## Photograph



## Topographic or Assessor's Map



**Recorded by:** Lisa Mausolf

**Organization:** Lexington Historical Commission

**Date (month / year):** May 2008

Assessor's Number    USGS Quad    Area(s)    Form Number

50/155

Boston  
North

1604

**Town:** Lexington

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*)

**Address:** 2287 Massachusetts Avenue

**Historic Name:**

**Uses:** Present: residential

Original: residential

**Date of Construction:** early 19<sup>th</sup> c.? (definitely by 1875?)

**Source:** deeds

**Style/Form:** NA

**Architect/Builder:** unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: mortared stone

Wall/Trim: wood shingles

Roof: asphalt shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

garage, shed

**Major Alterations (*with dates*):**

Date? – second floor maybe later addition; alt. to windows and front entry

**Condition:** good

**Moved:** no | x | yes | | **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acreage:** 0.40 acre

**Setting:** mixed residential neighborhood

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

LEXINGTON

2287 MASS. AVENUE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

1604

\_\_\_\_ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This house may date to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century but has seen many alterations since that time. The two-story, side-gabled structure presents a first floor which is three bays wide. The center entrance consists of an exterior vestibule with modern door sheltered by a gable door hood with shiplap siding resting on jigsawn brackets. It is flanked by two window openings that now contain modern casements and are capped by window hoods set on small brackets. The two upper story windows are oddly placed and contain 1/1 sash. The exposed rafters suggest that the second story could be a later, early 20<sup>th</sup> century addition and the shinglework on the side gables show that the rear roofline was later raised.

To the northeast of the house is a garage constructed of shiplap siding with two modern overhead garage doors on its gablefront.

**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house and its neighbor at 2295 Massachusetts Avenue were in common ownership for many years and it is not clear which of the two houses is older. Deeds suggest that one of the two houses dates back at least to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The original owner may well have been Michael Ryan who is shown as the owner on the 1853 map and sold it to Simon Robinson in 1854 (Book 674, Page 263). This transaction began over fifty years of ownership by the Robinson family, although it is not clear whether the family actually occupied the house. Simon W. Robinson (1792-1868) was a selectman, a state representative and was very prominent in Masonic matters. The local lodge was later named after Robinson. During the late 19<sup>th</sup> century the house was owned by John B. Robinson, Simon's son, who lived in Boston. The 1875, 1898 and 1906 maps show two houses owned by J. Robinson (2295 and 2287 Massachusetts Avenue).

The house was later inherited by Francis Robinson who sold it to Bengt Petterson in 1915. Petterson owned the property for just four years, selling the house and three acres of land to Joseph Valliere in 1919. Valliere was a conductor on the street railway. In 1930 the occupants of the house were Joseph, his wife Helen, two daughters, three sons and two sisters-in-law. The house next door at 2295 was also owned by Valliere but was rented out. The two were subdivided in 1932. Helen Valliere sold this house with a smaller parcel of land to George and Sonja Stone in 1953. The present owners purchased the house in 1964.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

1853, 1876, 1889, 1898, 1906 maps  
Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.  
Town Directories  
U.S. Census, various years.